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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A display apparatus includes: a display panel which has a display surface; an apparatus base to which the display panel is attached; a detecting unit which has a detecting surface disposed so as to face a region to be inspected being a part of the display surface, the detecting unit detecting by means of the detecting surface, light emitted from the region to be inspected, and outputting a detection result; and a case which supports the detecting unit, and is attached to a peripheral area of the region to be inspected.

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2001/136254 (2013.01); ***G02F 2201/58***
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2360/145 (2013.01)

CPC G02F 1/133308; G02F 2001/13332;

19 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

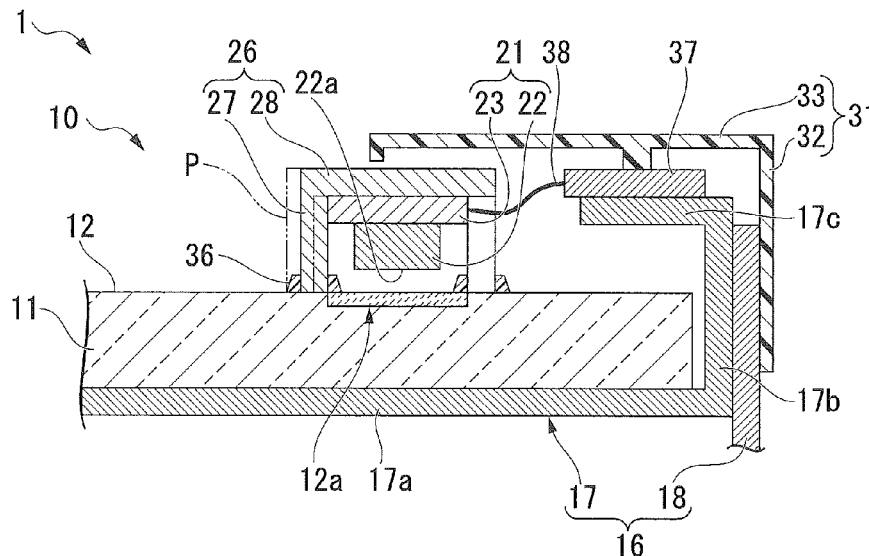


FIG. 1

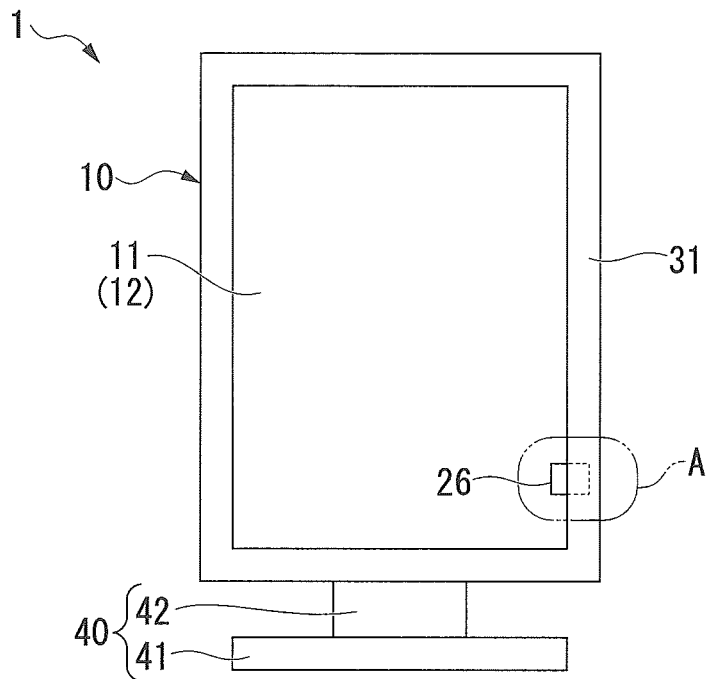


FIG. 2

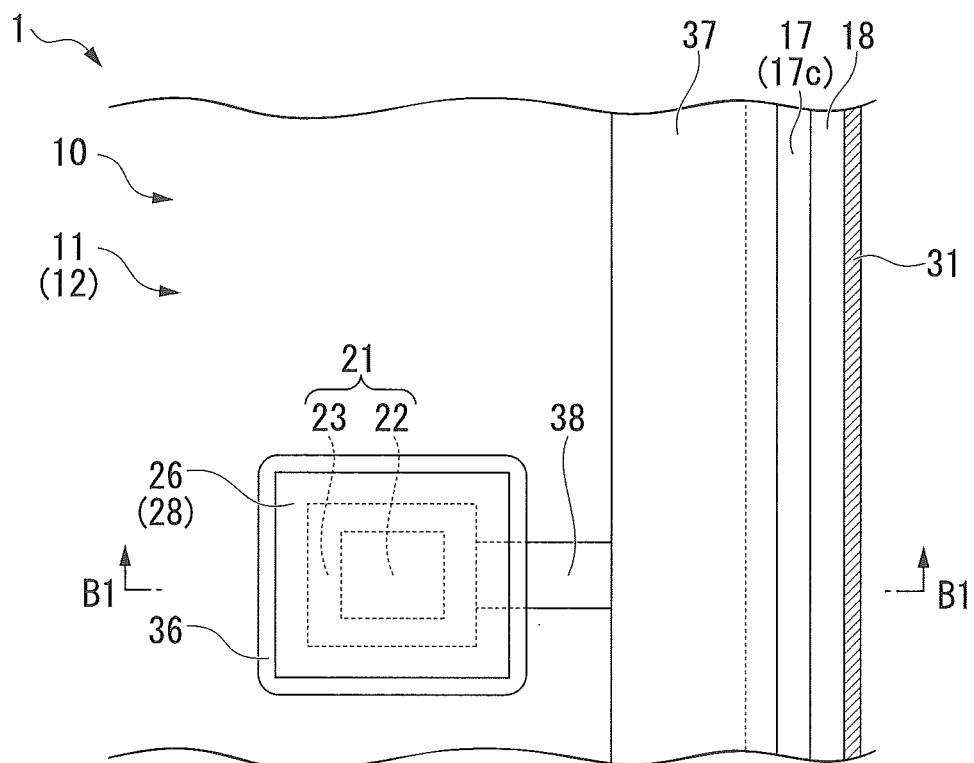


FIG. 3

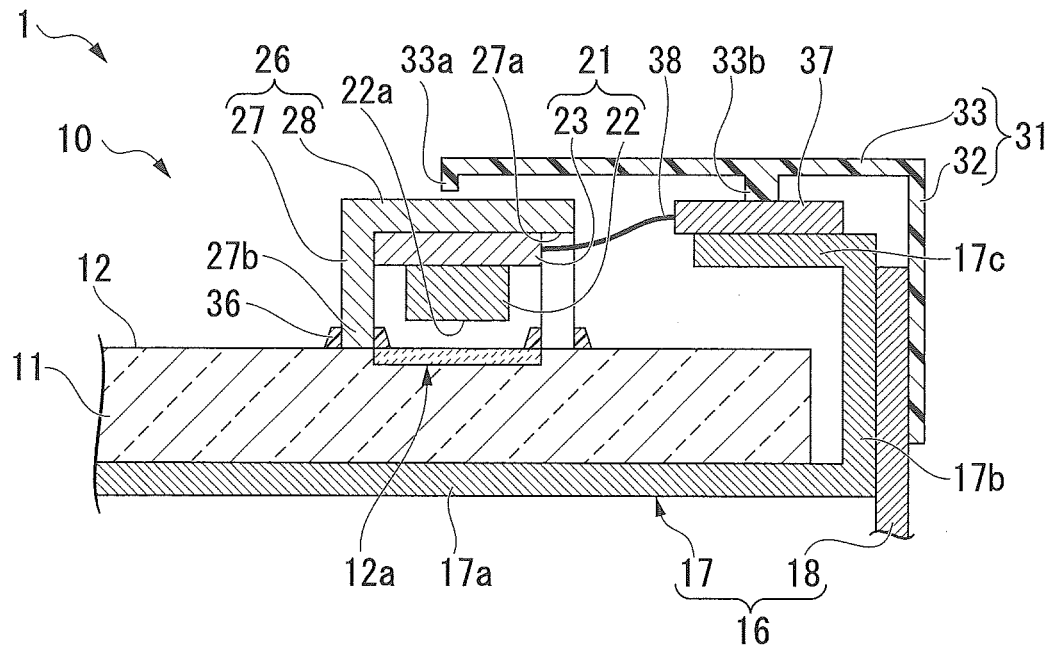


FIG. 4

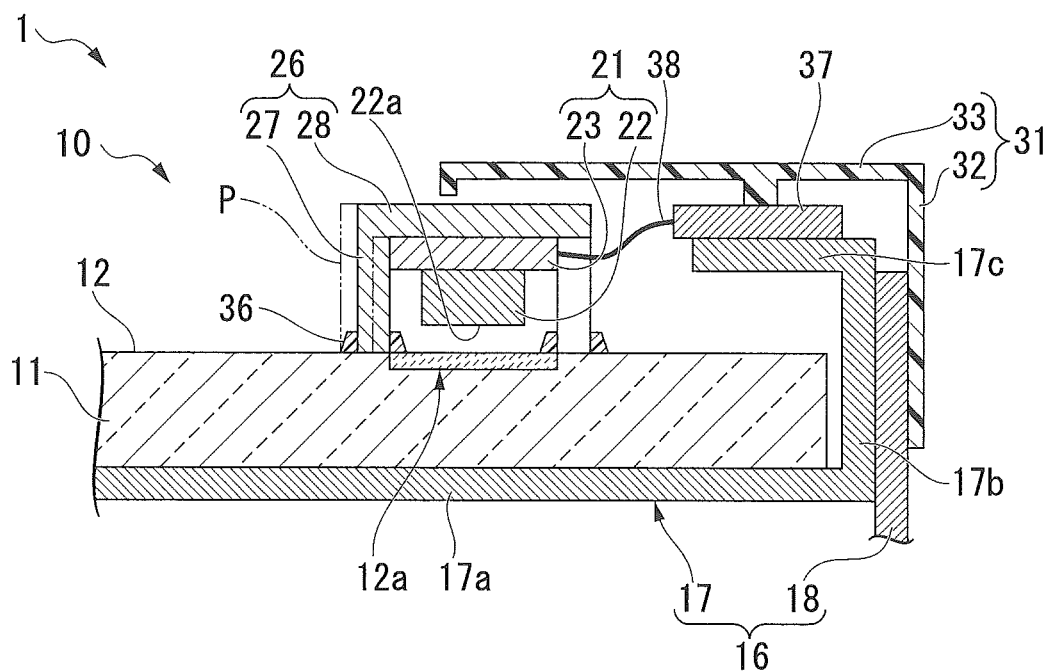


FIG. 5

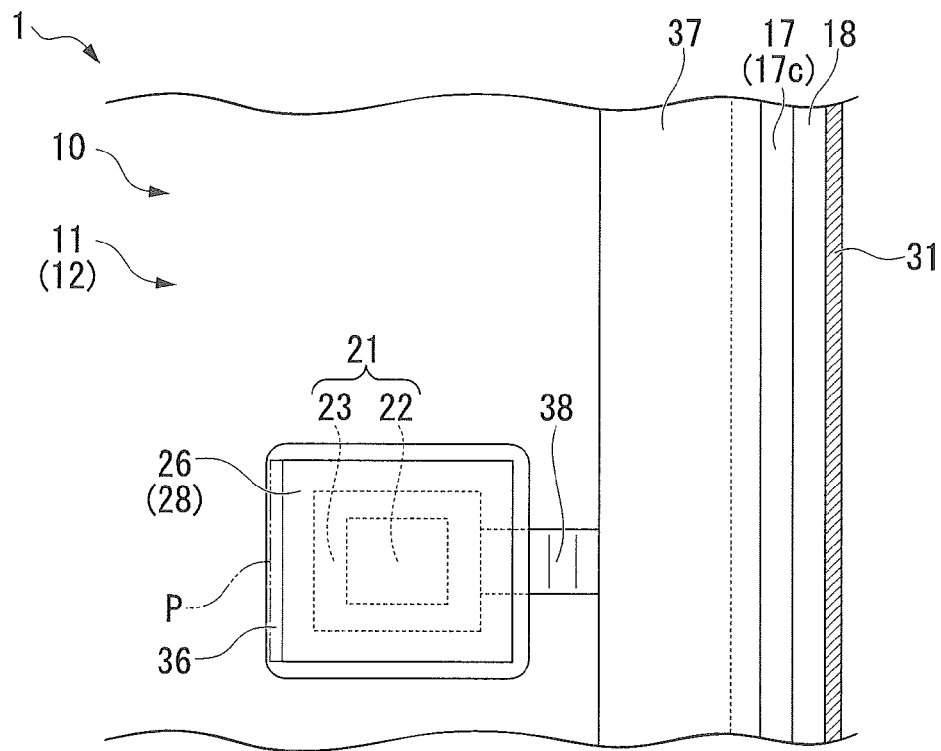
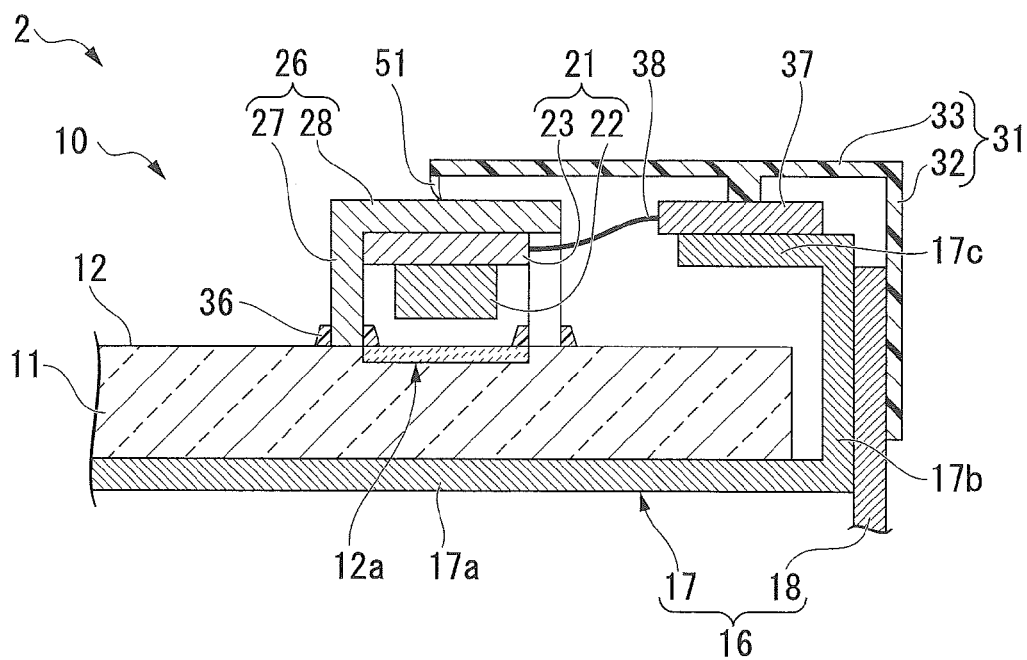


FIG. 6



1

DISPLAY APPARATUS

TECHNICAL FIELD

The present invention relates to a display apparatus that emits light from a display surface.

BACKGROUND ART

Heretofore, a variety of structures have been considered for the purpose of stabilizing the state of light emitted from the display surface of a display apparatus so that a user can see the display surface stably.

For example, in a display apparatus disclosed in Patent Document 1, a display unit including a liquid crystal panel (display panel) and a backlight is attached to a frame (apparatus base).

The aforementioned frame overlays an edge part of the display surface of the liquid crystal panel. A mounting substrate is attached to the frame by a mounting fitting. The cross-sectional shape of the mounting fitting in a plane including the thickness direction of the liquid crystal panel is formed in an L-shape. A horizontal segment of the mounting fitting is attached to the top surface of the frame with screws, and a vertical segment of the mounting fitting hangs down a little above the front of the display surface.

The front surface of the base part of the mounting substrate is fastened by solder to the rear surface of the vertical segment of the mounting fitting. A chip shaped luminance sensor (detecting unit) is installed on a convex part of the mounting substrate, and the luminance sensor faces the display surface of the liquid crystal panel.

The display apparatus constructed as above can measure the luminance of the display surface by the luminance sensor, and adjust the luminance automatically.

RELATED ART DOCUMENT

Patent Document

[Patent Document 1] PCT International Publication No. WO 2004/097510

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Problem to be Solved by the Invention

However, in the display apparatus of Patent Document 1, in a case where the position of a display unit mounted in a frame is shifted, the position of the display surface relative to the luminance sensor is shifted, so there is a problem in that the luminance of the display surface cannot be measured by the luminance sensor stably. Furthermore, there is also a type of display apparatus that has a region to be inspected provided on part of the display surface for the purpose of being measured by a luminance sensor. The region to be inspected is formed such that it cannot be seen by a user, and a special image is displayed for detection.

The present invention has been made in view of such problems, and an object thereof is to provide a display apparatus that can stably measure the state of the region to be inspected of a display surface by a detecting unit.

Means for Solving the Problem

In order to solve the above problems, this invention proposes the following measures.

2

A display apparatus of the present invention includes: a display panel which has a display surface; an apparatus base for attaching the display panel; a detecting unit which has a detecting surface disposed so as to face a region to be inspected being a part of the display surface, the detecting unit detecting by means of the detecting surface, light emitted from the region to be inspected, and outputting a detection result; and a case which supports the detecting unit, and is attached to a peripheral area of the region to be inspected.

Effect of the Invention

According to the display apparatus of the present invention, even if the attached position of the display panel to the apparatus base is shifted, the case that supports the detecting unit is attached to the peripheral area of a region to be inspected. As a result, the position of not only the display panel but also the position of the detecting unit are shifted together with the display panel to the apparatus base, and thus it is possible to prevent the detection results from being changed by the position of the region to be inspected being shifted relative to the detecting surface. Accordingly, it is possible to stably measure the state of the region to be inspected on the display surface by the detecting unit.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a front view of a display apparatus of one exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

FIG. 2 is an enlarged view of region A of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 is a cross-sectional diagram along the cutting plane line B1-B1 of FIG. 2.

FIG. 4 is a cross-sectional diagram of a main part for explaining a case in which the position of a display panel is shifted relative to an apparatus base in the display apparatus.

FIG. 5 is a front view of the main part corresponding to FIG. 4.

FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional diagram of the main part of a display apparatus in a modified example of the exemplary embodiment of the present invention.

EMBODIMENTS FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

Hereunder is a description of an exemplary embodiment of a display apparatus according to the present invention, with reference to FIG. 1 to FIG. 6.

As shown in FIG. 1, a display apparatus 1 of the present exemplary embodiment includes a liquid crystal display unit 10 having a liquid crystal panel (display panel) 11, and a support base 40 that supports the liquid crystal display unit 10 from below.

The liquid crystal display unit 10, as shown in FIG. 2 and FIG. 3, includes the aforementioned liquid crystal panel having a display surface 12, an apparatus base 16 for attaching the liquid crystal panel 11, a detecting unit 21 that detects visible light (light), and a case 26 that supports the detecting unit 21. FIG. 2, and in FIG. 5 to be described later show with part of a bezel 31 mentioned later, broken away.

The liquid crystal panel 11 is formed in a substantially rectangular plate shape when viewed from the front. The display surface 12 is set on one of the main surfaces of the liquid crystal panel 11, and the side of the display surface 12 is the front surface of the display apparatus 1.

A region to be inspected 12a is set at the edge part of the display surface 12. Visible light for displaying images and characters is emitted from the display surface 12 including the

region to be inspected **12a**. In this example, visible light emitted from the region to be inspected **12a** is formed such that it cannot be seen by a user, and a special image for detection is displayed in the region to be inspected **12a**. To be specific, the region to be inspected **12a** includes a peripheral section and an inspection pattern section surrounded by the peripheral section. Black is displayed in the peripheral section. In the inspection pattern section, a pattern is displayed in which the shade changes from white to black in steps. That is, in the region to be inspected **12a**, the inspection pattern section is in the center, and the peripheral section displayed in black surrounds the inspection pattern section.

The liquid crystal panel **11** can be connected to an external signal transmission apparatus via an image processing board and a signal cable (not shown in the figure) provided in the display apparatus **1**. A signal indicating characters and images transmitted from the signal transmission apparatus is processed by the image processing board, and is displayed on the display surface **12** of the liquid crystal panel **11**.

The apparatus base **16** has a frame **17** to which the other main surface of the liquid crystal panel **11** is attached, and a chassis base **18** joined to the frame **17**.

The frame **17** includes a frame body **17a** formed as a flat plate, a side plate **17b** extending forward from the edge of the frame body **17a**, and a front plate **17c** extending parallel to the frame body **17a** from the front edge of the side plate **17b**. The front plate **17c** extends to the edge part of the liquid crystal panel **11** such that it approaches the central part of the frame body **17a**. The liquid crystal panel **11** is attached to the frame body **17a** of the frame **17**.

The chassis base **18** is formed such that it defines the external form of the liquid crystal display unit **10** on the rear face side of the liquid crystal display unit **10**. The edge part of the chassis base **18** on the front face side is attached to the outer surface of the side plate **17b**.

The frame **17** and the chassis base **18** are formed by bending a sheet metal such as stainless steel, for example.

A bezel (frame member) **31** is attached to the chassis base **18**. The cross sectional shape of the bezel **31** in the plane including the thickness direction of the liquid crystal panel **11** is formed in an L-shape. The L-shaped cross section of the bezel **31** includes a side plate body **32** and a front plate body **33**.

The edge part of the side plate body **32** on the rear side is attached to the outer surface of the chassis base **18**. The front plate body **33** extends parallel to the front plate **17c** from the front edge of the side plate body **32** with a space between the front plate **17c** and the front plate body **33**. The end of the front plate body **33** extends past the end of the front plate **17c** in the direction along the display surface **12** of the liquid crystal panel **11**.

An inner rib **33a** that extends towards the rear face side is provided at the end of the front plate body **33**. Furthermore, an outer rib **33b** that extends towards the rear face side is provided in the central part between the inner rib **33a** of the front plate body **33** and the side plate body **32**.

The bezel **31** can be formed from resin using injection molding, for example.

The case **26** has a case body **27** formed in a square tube shape and a base part **28** that covers the front opening of the case body **27**. A notch **27a** is formed in the side face of the case body **27**. The case **26** can be formed from resin using injection molding, for example.

The edge part **27b** of the opening on the rear face side of the case body **27** is attached directly to the peripheral area of the region to be inspected **12a** of the display surface **12** using an adhesive **36**.

For the adhesive **36**, it is preferable to use a substance that hardens in a short time, such as a UV (ultraviolet light) hardening adhesive.

The base part **28** of the case **26** is disposed in a location facing the inner rib **33a** of the bezel **31**.

When attaching the case **26** to the display surface **12** of the liquid crystal panel **11**, in a state in which the edge part **27b** of the case **26** makes contact with the display surface **12**, they are aligned in the direction along the display surface **12** using a jig engaged with both the edge part of the liquid crystal panel **11** and the case **26**, for example. In this state, the peripheral area of the region to be inspected **12a** and the edge part **27b** of the case **26** are fastened with adhesive **36**.

By attaching the case **26** to the display surface **12** of the liquid crystal panel **11** in such a procedure, it is possible to attach the case **26** to the display surface **11** accurately.

The detecting unit **21** includes a luminance sensor **22** having a detecting surface **22a** and a sensor board **23** on which the luminance sensor **22** is provided. The detecting unit **21** is housed in the case **26**, and the sensor board **23** is fixed to the base part **28** of the case **26**. The detecting surface **22a** is disposed such that it faces the region to be inspected **12a**.

The detecting unit **21** can detect visible light emitted from the region to be inspected **12a** of the liquid crystal panel **11** by means of the detecting surface **22a** to obtain the luminance of the visible light, and can output the value of the obtained luminance to the outside as a detection result.

A circuit board **37** is arranged between the front plate **17c** of the frame **17** and the outer rib **33b** of the bezel **31**. The circuit board **37** is attached to the front plate **17c**.

This circuit board **37** and the sensor board **23** are connected by a known flexible printed board (wiring part) **38**. The flexible printed board **38** is inserted into the notch **27a** of the case **26**.

The aforementioned detection result detected by the detecting unit **21** is transmitted to the circuit board **37** via the flexible printed board **38** as an electrical signal. The circuit board **37** can adjust the luminance of visible light emitted from the display surface **12** of the liquid crystal panel **11** based on the transmitted detection result.

The support base **40**, as shown in FIG. 1, includes a base **41** formed in a flat plate shape and a pivot column **42** which extends in a protruding direction protruding from the main surface of the base **41**, and is formed such that it can rotate around an axis parallel to the protruding direction from the base **41**. The end of the pivot column **42** is attached to the chassis base **18**.

Using the support base **40** formed in this manner, the liquid crystal display unit **10** can be rotated around the axis parallel to the vertical direction in a state in which the base **41** is disposed on a table or the like, and thereby the direction in which the display surface **12** faces can be adjusted.

Next is a description of the operation of the display apparatus **1** constructed as above.

When the display apparatus **1** is started, the liquid crystal panel **11**, the detecting unit **21**, the circuit board **37**, and the image processing board are started.

When a signal is transmitted from the signal transmitting apparatus via the signal cable, the signal is processed by the image processing board, and images and characters are displayed on the display surface **12** of the liquid crystal panel **11**.

Visible light emitted from parts other than the region to be inspected **12a** on the display surface **12** is viewed by a user.

Visible light emitted from the region to be inspected **12a** on the display surface **12** is detected by the detecting surface **22a** disposed such that it faces the region to be inspected **12a**. The luminance of the detected visible light is converted to a

5

numeric value by the detecting unit 21, and transmitted to the circuit board 37 via the flexible printed board 38 as a detection result. The circuit board 37 adjusts the luminance of the visible light emitted from the display surface 12 of the liquid crystal panel 11 based on the transmitted detection result.

By the above operation, the luminance of the display surface 12 is adjusted to a predetermined value.

When manufacturing the display apparatus 1, there is a case where the position of the liquid crystal panel 11 attached to the frame body 17a of the frame 17 is shifted. To be specific, as shown in FIG. 4 and FIG. 5, an example is described in which the position of the liquid crystal panel 11 attached to the frame body 17a is shifted toward the edge part side of the liquid crystal panel 11 away from a reference position P.

In this case, since the detecting unit 21 is attached to the display surface 12 of the liquid crystal panel 11 via the case 26, the detecting unit 21 moves together with the liquid crystal panel 11. Further more, since the position of the sensor board 23 relative to the circuit board 37 shifts, the flexible printed board 38 that is connected to the sensor board 23 of the detecting unit 21 and the circuit board 37 deforms and bends.

As described above, according to the display apparatus 1 of the present exemplary embodiment, even in a case where the position of the liquid crystal panel 11 is shifted relative to the apparatus base 16, the case 26, which supports the detecting unit 21, is attached to the peripheral area of the region to be inspected 12a by the adhesive 36. As a result, by the position of not only the liquid crystal panel 11 but also the detecting unit 21 being shifted together relative to the apparatus base 16, the position of the region to be inspected 12a is prevented from shifting relative to the detecting surface 22a, and the detection result by the detecting unit 21 is prevented from being changed. Consequently, the state of the region to be inspected 12a of the display surface 12 can be stably measured by the detecting unit 21.

When the attached position of the display panel 11 is shifted relative to the apparatus base 16, the position of the circuit board 37 attached to the apparatus base 16 relative to the detecting unit 21 attached to the display panel 11 via the case 26 is shifted. However, since the circuit board 37 and the detecting unit 21 are connected by the flexible printed board 38, by the flexible printed board 38 flexing, it is possible to accommodate the shift in the position of the circuit board 37 relative to the detecting unit 21.

In a conventional display apparatus, in order to detect a visible light emitted from a region to be inspected reliably even if the position of the region to be inspected is shifted relative to a detecting surface, the region to be inspected was set to be large or the detecting surface was of a large form. In the case where the detecting surface is of a large form, the external shape of the case in which a detecting unit having the detecting surface is fixed also becomes large.

By contrast, in the display apparatus 1 of the present exemplary embodiment, since the position of the region to be inspected 12a relative to the detecting surface 22a is prevented from being shifted, it is possible to set a small region to be inspected 12a, and also to construct the detecting unit 21 and the case 26 in a compact external shape.

One exemplary embodiment of the present invention is described in detail above with reference to the drawings. However, specific constructions are not limited to this exemplary embodiment, and any structural change or the like that does not depart from the scope of the present invention is also included.

6

For example, in the above-described exemplary embodiment, as shown in the display apparatus 2 of FIG. 6, a fin member (elastic member) 51, which is arranged such that one end part is fixed to the end of the front plate body 33 and the other end part makes contact with the outer face of the case 26, may be provided. In this example, the inner rib 33a is not provided on the front plate body 33.

By constructing the display apparatus 2 in this manner, even if the attached position of the display panel 11 to the apparatus base 16 is shifted, the other end part of the fin member 51 makes contact with the outer face of the case 26. Consequently, the space between the bezel 31 and the case 26 is occupied by the fin member 51, so that it is possible to improve the appearance of the display apparatus 2.

In the present modified example of the display apparatus 2, it is possible to use rubber as a suitable elastic member instead of the fin member 51.

Furthermore, in the exemplary embodiment, the display panel is a liquid crystal panel. However, the display panel is not limited to this, and it may be a TFT (Thin Film Transistor) panel, an organic EL (Electro-Luminescent) panel, or the like.

Light emitted from the region to be inspected 12a is visible light. However, this is not a limitation, and the light may be infrared rays or the like.

In the exemplary embodiment, the detecting unit 21 has a sensor that detects the luminance of a visible light by the detecting surface 22a. However, the sensor used in the detecting unit is not limited to this, and it may be a color sensor that detects each of the three primary colors of light.

The wiring part is a flexible printed board 38. However, this is not a specific limitation provided the wiring part is flexible, and typical flexible electrical wiring may be used.

INDUSTRIAL APPLICABILITY

A display apparatus of the present invention can be used widely in order to display a variety of images and information in offices, factories, the medical field, and the like.

REFERENCE SYMBOLS

- 1, 2 Display apparatus
- 11 Liquid crystal panel (display panel)
- 12 Display surface
- 12a Region to be inspected
- 16 Apparatus base
- 21 Detecting unit
- 22a Detecting surface
- 26 Case
- 31 Bezel (frame member)
- 37 Board
- 38 Flexible printed board (wiring part)
- 51 Fin member (elastic member)

The invention claimed is:

1. A display apparatus comprising:
 - a display panel which has a display surface;
 - an apparatus base for attaching the display panel;
 - a frame member which is attached to the apparatus base;
 - a detecting unit which is disposed so as to face a region to be inspected, the region to be inspected being a part of the display surface; and
 - a case which houses the detecting unit therein, wherein the detecting unit detects light emitted from the region to be inspected, and wherein the case is fastened to the display surface.

7

2. The display apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a wiring part which has flexibility and is connected to the detecting unit, the wiring part transmitting the detection result of the detecting unit; and

a circuit board which is attached to the apparatus base and is connected to the wiring part, the circuit board adjusting light emitted from the display surface based on the detection result.

3. The display apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an elastic member which has a first end part fixed to the frame member, and a second end part making contact with an outer face of the case.

4. The display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the case is adhered to the display surface.

5. The display apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

an adhesive which fastens the case to the display surface.

6. The display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the case is fastened to the display surface such that a position of the region to be inspected relative to the detecting unit is prevented from being shifted.

7. The display apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a frame that includes:

a frame body;

a side plate extending forward from an edge of the frame body; and

a front plate extending parallel to the frame body from a front edge of the side plate.

8. The display apparatus according to claim 7, wherein the front plate extends to an edge part of the display panel such that the front plate approaches a central part of the frame body, and

wherein the display panel is attached to the frame body of the frame.

9. The display apparatus according to claim 7, further comprising a chassis base joined to the frame.

10. The display apparatus according to claim 9, wherein an edge part of the chassis base on a front face side of the display panel is attached to an outer surface of the side plate.

11. The display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the frame member comprises an L-shaped cross section.

12. The display apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the frame member comprises an L-shaped cross section and includes:

8

a side plate body, an edge part of the side plate body being attached to an outer surface of the chassis base; and

a front plate body.

13. The display apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the frame member comprises an L-shaped cross section and includes:

a side plate body, an edge part of the side plate body being attached to an outer surface of the chassis base; and

a front plate body that extends parallel to the front plate from the front edge of the side plate body with a space between the front plate and the front plate body.

14. The display apparatus according to claim 13, wherein an end of the front plate body extends past an end of the front plate in a direction along the display surface.

15. The display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the case includes a case body having a rear face side, an opening being formed on the rear face side,

wherein an edge part of the opening on the rear face side of the case body of the case is attached to a peripheral area of the region to be inspected.

16. The display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the case includes a case body having a rear face side, an opening being formed on the rear face side,

wherein an edge part of the opening on the rear face side of the case body of the case is attached directly to a peripheral area of the region to be inspected.

17. The display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the case is fastened to the display surface such that an edge part of the case contacts with the display surface.

18. The display apparatus according to claim 2, wherein a shift in a position of the circuit board relative to the detecting unit is accommodated by a flexing of the wiring part.

19. A luminance measurement method for a display device, the method comprising:

disposing a detecting unit of the display device so that the detecting unit faces a region to be inspected, the region to be inspected being of a display surface of the display device;

housing the detecting unit in a case of the display device; fastening the case to the display surface; and

detecting light emitted from the region to be inspected using the detecting unit.

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